WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1917.

# PRESIDENT ASKS CONGRESS TO DECLARE STATE OF WAR

## ARMED AMERICAN SHIP SUNK BY A SUBMARINE

NEW YORK, April 2.- The American steamship Aztec, owned by the Oriental Navigation Company, the first armed ship to sail from an American port, was sunk yesterday by a German submarine, according to advices received here tonight by the company from the United States consul at Brest, France.

The cable message gave no information as to the fate of the crew. There were thirty-nine men aboard the vessel, sixteen of them Amer-The Aztec sailed from New York March 18 for Havre. She was

commanded by Capt. Walter O'Brien. The Aztec carried a full cargo of foodstuffs, and general supplies

valued at more than \$500,000. PARIS, April 2.- The American steamer Aztec has been sunk by a submarine near an island off Brest. Some of the crew were rescued and are being brought into Brest. A number of the men are missing and little hope is held that they can be saved, as the steamer was tor-

## CONGRESS BEGINS HOUSE ORGANIZED MOST MOMENTOUS BY THE DEMOCRATS SESSION IN YEARS CLARK IS RE-ELECTED

pedoed at night while a heavy sea was running.

Speaker Clark was re-elected today Congress assembled at noon by a vote of 217 to 205 over his re today for a session generally republican opponent, Representative agreed to be the most momentous Mann, as the first step in the organization of the House of Representatives-

in part, as follows:
"I fully appreciate the fact that it

regard to party affiliation. I will use my utmost endeaver to be absolutely

A resolution declaring that ery of President Wilson's "war" ada state of war exists between the dress. United States and Germany today dent would ask Congress to declare was prepared for offering to the that a state of war exists between the House by Representative Flood, United States and Germany that Chair-

chairman of the foreign affairs committee.

The resolution would authorize the President to carry on war against Germany.

Text of Resolution.

The resolution follows:

"Whereas the recent course of the resolutions—Gardner and Fuller to require the resolution follows."

"Whereas the recent course of the resolutions—Gardner and Fuller to receive the democrate present and four of the so-called independents—Martin, progressive-protectionist of Louisiana; Schall, progressive of Minnesota; London, socialist of New York, and Randall, prohibitionist, Catifornia—voted for Clark.

Two republicans—Gardner and Fuller

"Whereas the recent course of the imperial German government is, in fact, nothing less than war against the sentative Lenroot of Wisconsin; Representatives Dallinger of Massachusetts government, which has thus been thrust upon the United States, is hereby

## War With All Resources.

"That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to take immediate steps, not only to put the country in thorough state of defense, but also to exert all sources to carry on war against the imperial German government and to bring the conflict to a successful

termination."

Mr. Flood announced late today that he would make some changes in the form of his resolution before offering it. He declined to say what the changes would be heart to say what the changes would be say that the changes were say the changes were say that the changes were say the changes were say that the changes were say the changes were say that the cha would be, but it was understood that the declaration of existence of a state

the declaration of existence of a state of war would stand.

The President, in his address, it is inderstood, will refer to the traditional friendship between the American and the forman people and ifferentiate between the German government and the people it rules.

He also will recount his efforts to restore peace to Europe and to mainunderstood, will refer to the tradi-tional friendship between the American people and the German people and differentiate between the German gov-He also will recount his efforts to estore peace to Europe and to mainain peace with Germany.

Before going to Congress, the President and the common delense of the nation are at stake. Let all the main peace with Germany.

Before going to Congress, the President and the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends we aim at be our country's, and in the ends w

## Asked to Rush Organization.

Democratic House leaders got word from the White House to hurry the organization as much as possible. Congress assembled with a majority openly in favor of a declaration of a elected. state of war, if not actually, a declara-

Beset on one side with large delegations of pacifists praying that the country be kept out of war, and besieged on the other by large numbers of "patriotic pilgrims," who demand the country's entrance into the war, Congress waited to hear the President outline the long history of German aggressions against American lives and fights and the predatory violence of her submarines.

her submarines.
Administration officials have made no secret that they consider Germany has been making war on the United States any price.

## War Spirit at Capitol.

The Capitol was arrayed in a war spirit s Congress assembled. The pacifist delewhite streamers across their breasts the clouse and Senate galleries, ade calls on their congressmen.

## SESSION GERMANY'S UNLAWFUL ACTS CONSTITUTE HOSTILITIES AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

President Wilson this evening asked Congress to recognize formally that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany.

He cited the many and continued attacks on American ships and Americans traveling on the high seas as evidence of the belligerency of Germany.

With a profound sense of the solemn and even tragical character of the step I am taking and of the grave responsibilities which it involves, but in unhesitating obedience to what I deem my constitutional duty, I advise that the Congress declare the recent course of the Imperial German government to be in fact nothing less than war against the government and people of the United States; that it formally accept the status of belligerent which has thus been thrust upon it; and that it take immediate steps not only to put the country in a more thorough state of defense but also to exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring the government of the

The President urged the raising of 500,000 men by universal military service.

The situation was further aggravated by the receipt of a dispatch from the American consul at Brest, France, of the sinking of the Aztec of the Oriental Navigation Company. The Aztec, which was the first armed ship sunk, carried a crew of thirty-nine, sixteen of whom were Americans.

The President lost no time in asking Congress to take action on the crisis between this country and the German empire. He asked to be heard without delay, even of one day.

The President was in constant touch with developments at the Capitol and ready to leave the White House at a minute's notice. Late in the afternoon, however, the House leaders notified him they probably would not be ready to receive him until nearly 6 o'clock. He was asked to fix a definite hour, and it was arranged for him to appear at 8 o'clock, and later to 8:30 o'clock tonight.

Immediately following the completion of the President's address Congress set about carrying out his requests, and there will be no delay in the action by both houses.

Chairman Flood of the House foreign affairs committee had prepared a resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany in readiness to be acted upon.

This resolution would authorize the President to carry on war against Germany on the ground that a state of belligerency between the United States and the imperial German government "has been thrust upon the United States."

The President is authorized to use all the power and resources of the nation to carry on war. The President's address, in full, follows:

traordinary sessi

serious, very serious, choices of the policy to be made, and made immediately which was neither right nor constitutionally permissible that I should assume the responsibility of should be responsible to the responsib

will be exceedingly difficult to discharge the duties of the speakership in this House. It will be almost impossible to do so without the hearty fair and I invoke the aid of all the members in doing so.

Speaker Talks Patriotism.

"It is absolutely unnecessary and superfluous to lecture the membership on patriotism. We are all patriots, as are the people who elected us. We are all Americans, whether natives or foreign born, as our constitutents. On many questions we are 'distinct as the billows, yet we are one as the sea when the honor and safety of the republic are involved. Politics finds no place in this House when the general welfare and the common defense of the nation are at stake. Let all the ends we aim at be our country's, and in the accomplishment of these ends may the God of our fathers be with us and guide us in the way which will redound to the honor and perpetuity of the greatest republic that ever exsted in all the flood of time."

The Speaker Talks Patriotism.

The speaker took the aid of all the honding and use its submarines to humanity and use its submarines to approach eits submarine to a proach either the ports of Great Britating and use its submarine to fixed every vessel that sought to approach either the ports of Great Britating and use its submarine to fixed every vessel that sought to approach either the ports of Great Britating and use its submarine to fixed every ressel that sought to approach either the ports of Great Britating and use its submarine to fixed every ressel that sought to approach either the ports of Great Britating and use its submarines to approach either the ports of Great Britating and use its submarines to Europe or any of the ports controlled by the enemies of Germany trolled by the enemies of Germany trolled by the enemies of its proved to approach either the ports of approach either the object of the fer of law of the war, but since April of last year the war, but since April of last year th

The precautions taken were meager and haphazard enough, as was proved in distressing instance after instance in the progress of the cruel and unmanly business, but a certain degree of restraint was observed. The new policy has swent every restriction aside. Vess. isted in all the flood of time."

The Speaker took the oath at 1:50 o'clock and members then were sworn into willce in groups by states.

Immediately after the Speaker's election new members were sworn in, and balloting was begun on the minor officers of the 'House organization.

While the President and his advisers are confident that, a great majority in Congress, as well as the country, stand behind him, a state-of-war resolution is not expected to be passed tonight. Its passage may be a matter of one of two or even more days, but the temper of Congress gives evidences that it will be passed by a large majority.

Meanwhile preparations are being carried forward in the military branches of the government to carry out the instructions of Congress after the President has spoken.

Clerk South Trimble and Sergeant-at-arms Robert B. Gordon were reclected.

Joseph Sinnott of Virginia, democrat, was elected doorkeeper over Bert Kennedy of Michigan by a vote of 216.

William M. Dunbar of Georgia, democrat, was re-elected postmaster over Lawrence Lyons of Indiana, republican, by a vote of 217 to 205.

As is customary, the Rev. Henry N. Couden of Michigan, the blind chaplain of the House, was re-elected without opposition.

The House session opened with Clerk South Trimble presiding until organization was perfected.

The chaplain included in his prayer

South Trimble presiding until organization was perfected.

The chaplain included in his prayer This minimum of right the German government has swept aside under the plea of retaliation and necessity and

War Against All Nations.

traordinary session because there are serious, very serious, choices of the policy to be made, and made immediate policy to be made, and made immediate ately, which it was neither right nor constitutionally permissible that should assume the responsibility of making.

On the third of February last 1 officially laid before you the extraordinary cially laid before you the extraordinary announcement of the imperial German government that on and after the first day of February it was its purpose to you taside all restraints of law or of humanity and use its submarines to sink every vessel that sought to approach either the ports of Great Britain and Ireland or the western coasts of Europe or any of the ports controlled by the enemies of Germany within the Mediterranean. That had seemed to be the object of the Germany serious, the different way not all the organization and mobilization of all at the organization and mobilization of the supply the material resources of the country to supply the material resources of the

are only a single champion.

When I addressed the Congress on the
26th of February last I thought that it 26th of February last I thought that it would suffice to assert our neutral rights with arms, our right to use the seas against unlawful interference, our right to keep our people safe against unlawful violence. But armed neutrality, it now appears, is impracticable. Because submarines are in effect outlaws when used as the German submarines have been used against bmarines have been used against erchant shipping, it is impossible to merchantmen would defend themselves against privateers or cruisers, visible craft giving chase upon the open sea. It is common prudence in such circumstances, grim necessity infleed, to endeavor to destroy them before they have shown their own intention. They must be dealt with upon sight, if dealt with at all. The German government denles the right of neutrals to use arms at all within the areas of the sea which it has proscribed, even in the defense of rights which no modern publicist has ever before questioned their right to defend. The intimation is conveyed that the armed guards erchantmen would defend themselve

publicist has ever before questioned their right to defend. The intimation is conveyed that the armed guards which we have placed on our merchant ships will be treated as beyond the pale of law and subject to be dealt with as pirates would be.

Armed neutrality is ineffectual enough at best; in such circumstances and in the face of such pretensions it is worse than ineffectual; it is likely only to produce what it was meant to prevent; it is practically certain to draw us; into the war without either the rights or the effectiveness of belligerents. There is one choice we cannot make, we are incapable of making: We will not choose the path of submission and suffer the most sacred rights of our nation and our people to be ignored or violated. The wrongs against which we now array ourselves are no common wrongs; they cut to the very ignored or violated. The wrongs against which we now array ourselves are no common wrongs; they cut to the very roots of human life.

## Nothing Less Than War.

With a profound sense of the solen and even tragical character of the step

submarine warfare against commerce most liberal financial credits, in order not by the will of their people. We have is a warfare against mankind.

that our resources may so far as posseen the last of neutrality in such cirsible be added to theirs. It will involve cumstances. We are at the beginning of the organization and mobilization of

and wars were provoked and waged in the interest of dynasties or of little groups of ambitious men who were accomplished by well conceived at taxtion.

Financial Protection Needed. It say sustained by the content of the present generation by well conceived the present generation the present generation of the pr

ing, through the several executive deconsideration of your committees, measures for the accomplishment of the

and even tragged character and active the same things in mind now that ties which it involves, but in unhesitating I had in mind when I addressed the

the same standards of conduct and of responsibility for wrong done shall be ob-served among nations and their governments that are observed among the in-dividual citizens of civilized states.

### No Quarrel With People. We have no quarrel with the German

people. We have no feeling towards

them but one of sympathy and friendship It was not upon their impulse that their It was not with their previous knowledge or approval. It was a war determined upon as wars used to be determined upon were nowhere consulted by their rulers

one would be a corruption seated at its very heart. Only free peoples can hold their purpose and their honour steady to a common end and prefer the interests of mankind to any narrow interest of their purpose.

ests of mankind to any narrow interest of their own.

Does not every American feel that assurance has been added to our hope for the future peace of the world by the wonderful and heartening things that have been happening within the last few weeks in Russia? Russia was known by those who knew its heat to war and safeguarding the nation will most directly fall.

While we do these things, these deeply momentous things, let us be very clear, and make very clear to all the world what our motives and our objects are. My own thought has not been driven from its habitual and normal course by the unhappy events of the last two months, and I do not believe that the thought of the nation has been altered or clouded by them. I have exactly the same things in mind now that I had in mind when I addressed the Senate on the twenty-second of Jan.

industries of the country have bearried on at the instigation, with support, and even under the perso direction of official agents of the perial government accredited to government of the United States.

proud punctilio the principles of right

I have said nothing of the governments allied with the Imperial Government of upon us or challenged us to defend our right and our honor. The Austro-Hunits unqualified endorsement and acceptance of the reckless and lawless submarine warfare adopted now without disguise by the Imperial German Government, and it has therefore not been nost.

The chief assailant of Senator not actually engaged in warfare against letter was affected on a well-citizens of the United States on the seas. and I take the liberty, for the present at least, of postponing a discussion of our relations with the authorities at Vienna

## Act Without Animus.

It will be all the easier for us to con in the old, unhappy days when peoples high spirit of right and fairness because we act without animus, not in and wars were provoked and waged in enmity towards a people or with the the interest of dynasties or of little desire to bring any injury or disad-

We shall, happily, still have an opportunity to prove that friendship in our daily attitude and actions towards the millions of men and women of German birth and native sympathy who live amongst us and share our life, and we shall be proud to prove it towards all who are in fact loyal to their neighbours and to the Government in the hour of test. They are, most of them, as true and loyal Americans as if they had never known any other fealty or allegiance. They will be prompt to stand with us in rebulking and restraining the few who may be of a different mind and purpose. If there should be disloyalty, it will be dealt with with a firm hand of stern redealt with with a firm hand of stern re-pression; but, if it lifts its head at all it will lift it only here and there and

you. There are, it may be, many nonths of fiery trial and sacrifice ahead of us. It is a fearful thing to ists in ahead of us. It is a fearful thing to isis in that connection. The lead this great peaceful people into declared that war was cowardly war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance. But the The chaplain fielded in his prayer a plea for patricitism.

"Diplomore has failed," he prayed, adjusted have been added in all because it had not except the what I deem my constitution and lecture to the first and pusted have been added in all because it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and like the prayer. The please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and like the prayer. The please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and please it had not except the what I deem my constitution and necessity and because the third of February and on the twenty—and on the twenty—and the collection of the United States; that it of the president to please the principles of the many reliable to employ as it is employed to the collection of the United States; that it of the president to please the principles of the many reliable to employ as it is employed to the collection of the United States; that it of the president to please the principles of the president when the control of the United States; that it is not president to the declared the residue of the collection of the United States; that it is not president to the declared the reliable to employ as it is employed to the collection of the United States; that it is not president to the first of the president when the status of believe to the first of the president when the sta right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we

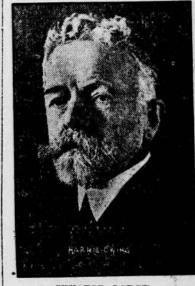
## PACIFISTS ATTACK SENATOR LODGE IN CAPITOL CORRIDOR

ONE CENT.

Blood Spilled in General Fight That Follows, But Lawmaker Escapes Injury.

SOLON SENDS SMASHING **BLOW TO ASSAILANT'S FACE** 

Alexander Bannwart, Who Leads Attack, Badly Beaten-Later Arrested for Assault.



Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts was attacked by a small group of pacifists from Dorchester, Mass., in the corridor outside his office at the Capitol today. Blows were struck and

ment, and it has therefore not been possible for this Government to receive Count Tarnowski, the Ambassador recently accredited to this Government by the Imperial and Royal Government of Austria-Hungary; but that Government has tria-Hungary; but that Government has tria-Hungary; but warfare against

## Senator Lands Smashing Blow.

Senator Lodge received a blow which clearly forced into it because there are Senator Lodge received a blow which no other means of defending our rights, bruised his face slightly, and he himwart's face, which knocked him back, Bannwart struck at the senator again, duct ourselves as belligerents in a and Senator Lodge was forced back against the wall, the other pacifists joining in the fight, which then became

Senator Lodge's clerks rushed out of Senator Lodge's clerks rushed out of his office to his defense, and David B. Herman of 439 20th street, an employe of the Western Union, waded into Bannwart. There was a free for all fight for a few seconds, during which Bannwart was pretty badly beaten up. Ward Davies, secretary of the chamber of commerce at Casa Grande, Ariz. also mixed in the fray and planted a fist in Bannwart's eye before he himself was knocked down in the general rush. Davies faid that he was passing along the corridor when he saw Bannwart strike Senator Lodge.

street, Boston.
It is Senator Lodge's custom, when a large party calls on him, to go into the corridor to see them, owing to the fact that his office is small, and he followed this custom today. The pacifists asked the attitude of Senator Lodge on the

Months of Trial Ahead.

It is a distressing and oppressive duty, gentlemen of the Congress, which I have performed in thus addressing you. There are, it may be, many Senator Lodge and said that his duty as I see it."
Senator Lodge, determining to close